

# ABSTRACT

The present invention is a retractable scalpel device with two releasable latching  
5 elements. When the scalpel blade is in an extended position, each releasable latching  
element is accessible for depression by finger pressure to cause retraction of the extended  
blade. However, the releasable latching elements are located on opposite edges (top and  
bottom edges) of a cover housing and about halfway along its length. The releasable  
latching elements must be depressed at the same time for the extended scalpel blade to  
10 be retracted into the cover housing.